

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 10-12, 14, and 15 are pending in the application. By this amendment, applicants have amended claims 1 and 12 and added new claims 18 and 19 to effectively remove limitations previously added. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The inventions and their benefits are set out in the application and described previously.

The examiner withdrew previous rejections and entered a new ground of rejection over WO 98/44695 ("Apple") in view of the applicants admitted prior art (APA).

As indicated below, Apple relates to a browser-side approach for using applets to maintain synchronization -- Apple "relates to the updating and synchronization of information between clients and servers on the World Wide Web through the use of applets." (Page 1, lines 9-10). Apple refers to certain limitations of the FORM element and states that that element "has many limitations that the present invention addresses using individual applications or applets that run on a client." The invention in Apple is said to provide for a mechanism to integrate applets running on a browser with applications running on a server. (Page 20, lines 4-6). To accomplish this, there are "numerous applets that are capable of data display and/or input." In addition to a number of separate applets for push buttons, check boxes, etc., there is also an applet group controller for managing communication and data synchronization.

As shown, for example, in Figures 2 and 3, most of the discussion in Apple relates to applets and an applet controller that all reside in a user's browser, and not at the server. There is limited discussion of action at the server or of rendering a document, and what little there is appears to be at page 28, line 21 et seq. As indicated here, if a new page is to be rendered, an HTML document is created and the URL for that document is transmitted back to an applet group controller in the browser. The browser then retrieves the HTML document from the URL.

The present application relates to "systems which serve hypertext content over a network," such as the Internet (Field of the Invention, page 1). The application relates to maintaining, in that system, hypertext documents and software components in a manner that does not require exact name matching and that allows software components to be practically re-usable for other applications (See Background section).

There is no indication here that server in Apple performs the steps, such as maintaining, providing, receiving, and calling, that are recited in claim 1. As amended, claim 1 makes more explicit that the steps are performed by the server, and amendments have been made to more closely match the specification. These acts are supported in the application and provide mappings that can address the issues cited above.

Applicants have also amended claim 12 to make more explicit that the components that are recited reside in a web server for communicating remotely with a user. Claim 12 as already written relates to a web server system having the identified components.

All claims should now be in condition for allowance and accordingly a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees now required to maintain the pendency of the application, to Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

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Respectfully submitted,

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